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CLASSIFICATION SECRET		25X1A
COUNTRY <u>Germany (Soviet Zone)</u>	REPORT NO. <u> </u>	
TOPIC <u>4th Volkspolizei Bereitschaft in Meiningen</u>		
25X1C		
EVALUATION <u> </u>	PLACE OBTAINED <u> </u>	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT <u>Prior to late July, and 7 October 1950</u>		
DATE OBTAINED <u> </u>	DATE PREPARED <u>24 November 1950</u>	
REFERENCES <u> </u>	25X1A	
PAGES <u>2</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u> </u>	
REMARKS <u> </u>		
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SOURCE

1. At the end of July 1950 the 4th VP Bereitschaft, an infantry unit, was located in Meiningen (M 51/H 32) and had a total strength of 200 police. It was quartered in the barracks installation on Knochenhauerstrasse.
2. VP Oberrat Eichler (fnu), a former army officer, was the commanding officer of the 4th VP Bereitschaft. He was about 170 cm tall and about 42 years of age, but looked older than his actual age. Eichler was transferred to the Lehrbereitschaft in Meiningen in April 1950, succeeding VP Oberrat Beier (fnu), who was appointed commanding officer of the 4th Stamm-bereitschaft in Suhl. (1)
3. The 4th Bereitschaft received training in the field, training in close combat and street fighting, arms training with model 34 machine guns, model 98-K carbines and models 08 and 38 pistols. Record firing was held twice a week. The training was under the control of the Hauptverwaltung fuer Ausbildung (Main Administration for Training) (HVA) on Kurze Strasse, Berlin-Wilhelmsruh. (2)
4. At the end of March 1950 the 4th Stamm-bereitschaft was transferred from Meiningen to Suhl. The unit consisted of police who had served with the Lehr-bereitschaft in Meiningen for not less than one year. (3)
5. On 7 October 1950 it was learned that VP Kommandeur Kruehle (fnu) had been appointed commanding officer of the 4th VP Grenz-bereitschaft on Puschkin-strasse, Meiningen. It was also learned that VP Rat Naumann (fnu), commanding officer of the VP Grenzkommandantur on Anton-Ullrich-Strasse, Meiningen, had been replaced by VP Rat Weiss (fnu), and had received an undetermined reassignment. (4)

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 Comments.

- (1) In late June 1950 it was reported that the 4th VP Bereitschaft (Inf) in Meiningen numbered about 1,000 police and was commanded by VP Kommandeur Beier.

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- (2) The HVA moved to the Adlershof airfield in the summer of 1950.

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- (3) Only the 3rd VP Bereitschaft (Inf) is known to be located in Suhl. The unit was last confirmed in July 1950. The present report indicates for the first time that, besides the Bereitschaften which are primarily engaged in basic training, there are Bereitschaften which have been newly activated from trained VP personnel. The understrength unit which had remained in Meiningen was probably due to receive new VP recruits in the fall of 1950.
- (4) VP Oberrat Gruhle or Kruehle (fnu) was identified as the commanding officer of the 4th VP Grenzbereitschaft in Meiningen in May 1950.

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